

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15
STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00
OMB-01 /099 R

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EB/OF/FPD:PDTAYLOR
ARA/ECP:ABERRY
EUR/CAN:JROUSE
EA/ANP;HNELSON
USDA/FAS:JREISZ (SUBSTANCE)

----- 024079 /44

R 160115Z DEC 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMCONSUL BELIZE

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E.O. 11652:N/A

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TAGS: EAGR, ETRD

SUBJECT: 1977 MEAT IMPORT PROGRAM NEGOTIATIONS

REF: STATE 303449

1. REFTEL PROVIDED PRESS GUIDANCE ON THE STATUS OF MEAT IMPORT NEGOTIATIONS. DEPARTMENT SPOKESMEN ALSO HAS FOLLOWING CONTINGENCY GUIDANCE REGARDING THE ALLOCATION FOR PANAMA. QUOTE QUESTION: IS IT TRUE THAT THE INCREASE FOR PANAMA WAS DOUBLE ITS PREVIOUS SHARE WHILE THE INCREASES OF THE OTHER COUNTRIES WERE ONLY 3 PERCENT AND THAT THIS WAS DONE IN PART BECAUSE OF THE SENSITIVITY OF THE PANAMA CANAL NEGOTIATIONS? ANSWER: PANAMA'S INCREASE CORRECTS AN ANOMALY WHICH ARISES IN THE CASE OF PANAM FROM APPLICATION OF THE GENERAL ALLOCATION FORMULA BASED ON EXPORTS TO THE US DURING 1973/1974. PANAMA'S EXPORTS TO US DURING THOSE YEARS WERE ABNORMALLY LOW. UNQUOTE.

2. UNDERSTANDINGS WITH ALL MAJOR EXPORTING COUNTRIES ARE BEING COMPLETED WITH EXCHANGES OF NOTES PRESENTLY UNDERWAY IN WASHINGTON.

3. THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR 1977 PROVIDE FOR THE FOLLOWING LEVELS OF SHIPMENTS TO THE US: (IN MILLIONS OF POUNDS)

AUSTRALIA, 653.0; BELIZE, 0.5; CANADA, 75.0; COSTA RICA, 55.6; DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, 15.0; EL SALVADOR, 11.9; GUATEMALA, 35.6; HAITI, 2.0; HONDURAS, 37.2; MEXICO, 62.1; NEW ZEALAND, 268.3; NICARAGUA, 50.7 AND PANAMA, 5.0. EMBASSY SHOULD AVOID DISCUSSION OF ALLOCATION FIGURE FOR ANY COUNTRY OTHER THAN HOST COUNTRY. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INSTRUCTIONS, IMPORTS, MEATS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ellisoob
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE304671
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JRICARDSON:DE
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760463-0420
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761236/aaaabfei.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 303449
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <03 AUG 2004 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: 1977 MEAT IMPORT PROGRAM NEGOTIATIONS
TAGS: EAGR, ETRD
To: CANBERRA SAN JOSE SANTO DOMINGO MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006